GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4559
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2001
INSURANCE SCHEME FOR DROUGHT PRONE THAR DESERT
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that most of the area of Thar desert is droughtprone on an average seven years out of every ten years;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to formulate any comprehensive Insurance Scheme to meet the cost of relief measures undertaken almost every year in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which this scheme is likely to be made operational for drought prone Thar desert of Rajasthan?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) covering all farmers, cropsand risks has already been implemented in the country from Rabi 1999-2000 season. The scheme is voluntary in nature for the States/Union Territories. At present, the scheme is being implemented by 18 States and 2 Union Territories. The State Government ofRajasthan has not opted in favour of the scheme, so far.